

Cherrywood Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Wednesday, August 19, 2020 | 6:30 to 8:00 PM

Zoom ID: 254 172 8972 (participation will be moderated)

1. Call to Order and Adoption of Agenda at 6:36
2. There are no previous actions that required approval.
3. Steering Committee Reports
 - a. Jim Walker gave the Chair Report. There has not been much activity. The Steering Committee has met twice since the last General Meeting and did discuss issues related to the Flea. It was decided that a paper copy would continue to be distributed in order to reach as many households as possible and to maintain community ties.
 - b. Allen Hah gave the Treasurer's Report. The cash and net balances are \$2,311.89 and \$3636.89 respectively. We have postponed collecting ad fees for about six months due to pandemic related business positioning. Mr. Hah reminds us to support local businesses to the greatest extent possible as they are precariously situated, and some may not survive.
 - c. Jennifer Potter-Miller was not present to give the Flea Report. Mr. Walker gives a shout out to Ms. Potter-Miller for her continued efforts and to the Flea Flickers. Additional Flea Flickers are solicited as are content contributors and editors for the Flea.
 - d. Actions taken since the last General Meeting were reviewed. There have two letters sent to the City regarding neighborhood issues. The City acknowledged receipt of the letter regarding truck traffic on 38 ½ Street. Council Member Tovo referred us to a district representative to request a direct patrol. A letter was also sent regarding our requests for two hybrid traffic beacons at Walnut Street and Alexander Avenue where they intersect with Manor Road. Council Member Tovo recognizes that these traffic beacons are also priorities for the City of Austin.
4. Community Presenters
 - a. Guest attendee Jake Boone of the Ghisallo Cycling Initiative explained their programs and asked us to consider how they might fit in our neighborhood. The Ghisallo Cycling Initiative is a non-profit cycling education organization that has free programs for both children and seniors. They are seeking more neighborhood-based programs and they are not able to present in schools, as they used due to the coronavirus. People in neighborhoods are forming pods where the same groups of people share space and socialize and they are interested in working with these groups, especially if there are children. They

have coronavirus protocols reviewed by a doctor and a public health nurse and they will not open programs until we are at or below Category 3--probably in October. Their programs include a bike-skills challenge, bike start for kids and adults, a bike club for group rides, a bike fix-a-thon where tools are provided, a train-the-trainer program for parents/guardians to teach children, and a city cyclists program for commuters.

5. Reports of Committees and Neighborhood Projects

- a. Girard Kinney reported on the Land Use and Transportation Committee. Jennifer Potter-Miller has offered to help file a grant for financial assistance for projects at the Cherrywood Green. The projects include making the water fountain functional again and providing irrigation for the herb garden and underpinning the stairs down to the creek and installing a handrail. Jim Walker suggested replacing the mouth spigot with a gooseneck bottle refiller. Mr. Kinney also reported that the Scheiffer Cherrywood intersection work as part of city bikeways is proceeding.
- b. Green Spaces Update: There are no updates on Patterson Park. The Grackle Green playscape has been installed but is closed due to coronavirus. Cherrywood Green is to be mowed this month.
- c. NCINC3 & TXDoT IH-35 renovation of IH35 corridor through central Austin. TXDoT is fully funded. TXDoT engineers are cooperative and listen to community input. A "Cap and Stitch" approach to downtown is under consideration. In our neighborhood the plan is to depress lanes and the width of the highway is an issue that will affect our neighborhood. TXDoT wants to depress lanes, maintain east/west connectivity, maintain traffic flow and affect local neighborhoods as minimally as possible. Fixing IH35 could improve the social and income inequality that has long been exacerbated by the dividing line between East and West Austin that IH35 creates. The Steering Committee will keep the neighborhood apprised via the list serve.

6. New Business

- a. Update on the Land Development Code Rewrite process: not a lot of progress has been made as it is stalled due to the lawsuit that found the City did not provide property owners sufficient opportunity to give input. However, development has not slowed down in our neighborhood. As the City focuses on more procedural issues it is hoped that it will step away from mapping and leave that to neighborhoods to decide where density is most appropriate. The Blackland and Guadalupe Community Development groups have agreed to assist Cherrywood with issues related to affordability.

- b. Slowly the NeighborNet is being replaced with cherrywood@groups.io. Neighborhood Net is being phased out because the platform will no longer be supported by Yahoo. All interested neighbors should switch to groups.io by the fall.
 - c. Update on neighborhood help group that was started at beginning of stay-at-home orders. There was some initial activity but it is largely inactive now. A brainstorming group to re-envision what to do next might be useful.
7. General Announcements (3 min per speaker). There was discussion generally among attendees expressing concern for the homeless population that was under IH35. There has been a sweep and people wonder who is helping this vulnerable population and if there is something we can do to help. Blacklands has a program, could we help with their program? Jim Walker will put a query out on groups.io.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Attendees

Jim Walker	Girard Kinney
Sharon Lynch	William Dailey
Sean Griffin	Chastity Lovely
Alex Garcia	Karen Paup
Allen Hah	Jules Vieau
Brandy Savarese	Sarah Sweeney
Leyla Cohlma	Dave Westenberger
Carla Fjeld	Richard Hal
Jimmy (last name unrecorded)	Sandra (last name unrecorded)